

From: "Otis L Sanford \(\lsnford2\)" <lsnford2@memphis.edu>
To: "William Gibbons (wgibbons)" <wgibbons@memphis.edu>
Date: 11/13/2016 8:12:37 PM
Subject: Re: implicit bias

Fabulous. Thanks Bill. And thanks for the comment on the column.

Prof. Otis Sanford
Hardin Chair of Excellence in Journalism
The University of Memphis
Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 13, 2016, at 7:11 PM, William Gibbons (wgibbons) <wgibbons@memphis.edu> wrote:

Otis,

Enjoyed your column today.

Here are some points I plan to make:

1. We need data driven deployment of our police resources, which means more resources in higher crime areas.
2. In Memphis, that means deployment of more resources into predominantly African American - and probably Hispanic - neighborhoods. And that's what the citizens of those neighborhoods want!
3. But that means more encounters by the police with citizens in those neighborhoods, and those encounters need to get handled properly.
4. The President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing is correct in recommending an emphasis on training that helps officers (a) have the knowledge and skills to be culturally responsive and treat people with dignity and respect and (b) be aware of the correct legal standards in handling different types of encounters. Our police director is in total agreement with that.
5. The new Operation: Safe Community plan emphasizes the need for this kind of training.

I hope that helps. On the perception of implicit bias by prosecutors, I'll be glad to address some of the things I did as a way of trying to determine if it existed.

Bill

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 10, 2016, at 3:55 PM, Otis L Sanford (lsnford2) <lsnford2@memphis.edu> wrote:

Hi Bill, I don't think that a conference with the panel is practical, so I am just asking people individually what they want to focus on. Can you just give me a line or two and I will take it from there. One thing I may ask you to discuss is how do local prosecutors fight the perception of implicit bias when handling cases. Also, from a public policy standpoint, i.e., Operation Safe Community, how is the perception of implicit bias dealt with there.

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